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or baseball, and the more completely this power is developed the more perfectly will the boy or girl be able to perform their part and the more certain they are of victory. Combined, thorough training usually means victory. Plato said: "If children are trained to submit to laws in their plays the love for law enters their souls with the music accompanying the games. It never leaves them, but helps in their development." Everlasting vigilance, coupled with wisdom must be exercised. Give the boy and girl literature that is good; aim to establish in them a desire for the best course of reading and study. In all things conserve their mental and physical. Let us be sane in whatever work we demand of them. The boy and the girl should leave the parental roof with habitual actions so fitted to their natures, so appropriate to their special needs and so firmly implanted within their being that they may be trusted to bear them safely along the right course later in life. Perchance there may be a breaking up of old ideas and habits in after life. We may be adrift at sea, and it is in such crucial places that this life book (of which we have been making) may prove a trusted friend and counselor.

Fossils from the Western Front.

FRANK P. STRICKLAND, JR.

When the American First Army took over a sector of the western front in 1918 the troops entered trenches that had been held by the French almost from the beginning of the war. These trenches were located in a so-called "quiet sector," north and northwest of the fortress of Toul, and because of a minimum of artillery bombardment were in a fair state of preservation. The trenches were for the most part dug in soil containing soft limestone with some shale, the stone being sufficiently rotten as to allow of its being worked with pick and shovel. The soil from the trenches, thrown out on either side, had by 1918 become so disintegrated that the finer particles had settled or disappeared, leaving the more resistant particles on the surface. Among these were many fossils of the Carboniferous, for the rocks of this sector are Carboniferous and form the northeast rim of the great Paris basin.

In the bustle and excitement incident to taking position on the line there was little opportunity to study fossils, but as things settled a bit the thoughts of home brought memories of the collection of fossils gathered from the hillsides of Wyandotte, and a desire was formed to add to that collection some of the specimens from the land of our French comrades. And so a number of fine brachiopods, ammonites, lamellibranchs, echinoderms and crinoid stems were gathered from the edges of the trenches and from shell holes at such times as it was possible to get one's head above the top without arousing enemy snipers. The brachiopods resembled our *Terebratula, Atrypa, Pugnax, Spirifer,* etc.; forms of ammonites also resembled ours, and there were specimens resembling *Archæocidoris, Schizodus* and *Laphophyllum.*

As soon as the Yanks became settled in their new position it ceased to be a "quiet sector." The change can be best illustrated by an incident that occurred about this time. For three years the hostile armies had watched each other with an occasional exchange of shots but with no real fighting. Midway between the lines was the wreck of a small village which contained a well and small creek. The French had been in the habit of using this well and stream on certain days of the week, while the Germans used them the remainder of the week. The first day that the Germans went to the well after the Americans took charge the Yank artillery opened up and blew up the well, creek and all Germans in sight and then smashed the German trenches. This naturally caused the Germans to do some firing in return, with the result that some of the American trenches were damaged. The shell holes caused in this duel uncovered some fine echinoferms, which were added to the collection. In the raiding and fighting at night in no man's land it was often necessary to hide in shell craters while star shells filled the air, and many of these echinoderms could be picked up if one could keep his mind away from the poison gas and shrapnel long enough to think of such matters. These echinoderms were very common in that sector and were of two sizes, one about an inch in diameter and the other about three inches, and were well preserved. These were the only forms of fossils found in shell holes in this sector, which was on the edge of the farm village of Mamey. The other fossils found here were taken from the soil removed from the trenches. Evidently they could not resist the exploding shrapnel as could the large, heavy echiroderms, and were probably pulverized by the explosion.

In digging trenches preparatory to the "jump-off" at the beginning of the Argonne, the collection was further enlarged by the addition of more brachiopods and a number of lamellibranchs from the neighborhood of Thiaucourt and further north. As the second American army prepared for its drive against Metz in October and November, 1918, more eichnoderms were picked up in shell craters southwest of the city.

When the troops began moving back off the line after the armistice, preparatory to establishing winter camps, a camp was established in an old German camp on the heights of Woinville, near St. Mihiel on the western edge of the great Waëvre plain. At the base of one of the hills was a shell crater made by Allied artillery in the St. Mihiel drive of September 12 and 13, 1918. It was about twenty feet in diameter and perhaps fifteen feet deep. The soil in the hole had been pulverized by the explosion, and the three months of almost constant rain that followed had caused the finer particles to settle, leaving many brachiopods and ammonites, as well as a few crinoids, exposed. Curiously no echinoderms were found, this condition being the reverse of that farther east in newly made shell holes, although they may have been present in other shell holes near by which did not come under observation.

New Years Day, 1919, a party of officers stationed near Toul visited the old German lines near Apremont and Varnieville on the old St. Mihiel salient, near the city of St. Mihiel. Jutting out from the heights near these villages into the Waëvre plain is a high promontory-like hill, which was used by the Germans as a stronghold. It was crowned by a complicated system of trenches, dugouts and "pill boxes," and its interior contained many passages and vaults. The rock in the hill was similar to oölitic limestone found in this country, and the soil thrown out of the excavations contained fossils in abundance, and it required only a few minutes to pick up a large assortment of brachiopods and crinoids, including a form having a stem with a pentagonal cross section;

forms resembling our *Archæocidaris, Schizodus* and *Laphophyllum* were picked up, but no echinoderms were found.

All these fossils eventually reached America, and now form part of a collection in Kansas City, Kan. Due to the constant change of station, it was impossible to get in touch with any literature or any person who could help in identifying the specimens. However, correspondence is now going forward with scientists in France with this end in view.

An Annotated List of Some Kansas Pleurosticti (Scarabæidæ).*

J. W. McColloch and W. P. Hayes.

As a part of the study on insects injurious to the roots of crops being conducted at the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station, the writers have devoted considerable time to collecting and making observations on the various species of Scarabæidæ belonging to the subfamilies Melolonthinæ and Pleurosticti. Many of these are injurious, in the larval or adult stages, to crops of various kinds. In many cases little is known regarding the distribution, life history, habits and food of the different species. During the past winter the writers have studied all of the specimens of the subfamily Pleurosticti in the collection of the Kansas State Agricultural College and have assembled the notes made by them during the past few years. Most of the literature dealing with Kansas Coleoptera has also been gone over. The present paper is the result of this work and is given at this time in the hope of adding to the meager knowledge of this group and in stimulating others to further observations. The arrangement of Casey (1915) has been followed in listing the species.

Rhombonalia comes Casey.

Trego, Russell and Wallace counties. June, July. Casey (1915, p. 6) also reports it from Rooks county.

Anomala binotata Gyll.

Throughout the state; common. April, May. The biology of this species in Kansas has been reported by one of the writers (Hayes, 1918).

Anomala ludoviciana Schf.

Riley and Gove counties; not common. April, May. Six specimens were in the collection studied. One was taken on a plum tree on May 9.

Anomala stigmatella Casey.

McPherson county (Casey, 1915, p. 22).

Anomala near *flavipennis* Burm.

Riley county; not common. June 18 to July 21. Seven specimens have been collected at lights. Adults have also been reared from grubs collected under logs and around corn roots. Pupation occurs June 4 and the pupal stage lasts about fifteen days. Snow (1883, p. 58) reports this species from Douglas county.

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* Contribution from the Entomological Laboratory, Kansas State Agricultural College, No. 56. This paper embodies the results of some of the investigations undertaken by the authors in the prosecution of project No. 100 of the Kansas Agricultural Experiment Station.